

**From:** Mark Reed  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/15/02 3:41pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Dear Attorney General Ashcroft:

I am a supporter of you and President Bush as well as Microsoft Corp. I believe the current settlement is the best course of action at this time. I don't believe the case should have been pursued in the first place, but since the damage has been done can we please put it to rest right away.

I work in the technical industry as a computer programmer. I am not employed (nor ever have been) by Microsoft, but I am a firm believer that they have done an enormous amount of good in the industry. Their servers and development environment have enabled me to be a successful professional. I am grateful to them - and feel they have been unjustly "picked on".

I understand the market is extremely competitive and unsavory practices occur. However, these unsavory practices are done by all parties - if IBM, Sun or Oracle were in Microsoft's shoes - they would have done the same things. Hopefully I would be consistent in wanting an end to those cases as well - were they brought up.

Please put the case to rest.

Sincerely,

Mark Reed

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